State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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October 21, 2008

David Herron
Duchesne Ranger District
PO Box 98
Duchesne, Utah 84021

Subject: OGM Comments, Iron King Project

Dear Mr. Herron:

The Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act recognizes that (1) a mining industry is essential to the economic and physical well being of the state of Utah and the nation; (2) mining should be done in a way to minimize undesirable effects; and (3) the mined surface reclaimed for the subsequent use of the land. It is with this charge in mind the Division submits the following comments.

The Mineral Rules define exploration to mean:
Surface disturbing activities conducted for the purpose of discovering a deposit or mineral deposit, delineating the boundaries of a deposit or mineral deposit, and identifying regions or specific areas in which deposits or mineral deposits are most likely to exist. "Exploration" includes, but is not limited to: sinking shafts; tunneling; drilling holes; digging pits or cuts; building roads and other access ways (R647-1-106).

Prior to commencing exploration the applicant must submit a complete Notice of Intention to Conduct Exploration to the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining. A reclamation contract and reclamation bond must also be approved prior to exploration activities. Additional information and forms can be found on the Division's web page at http://ogm.utah.gov/minerals/default.htm . Since this project is on Forest Service lands, we will work with the Forest and the applicant so that bonding and permitting requirements are coordinated and not duplicated.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this effort. If you have any questions in this regard please contact me at 801-538-5334.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Baker
Minerals Program Manager

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cc: daherron@fs.fed.us
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